

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A cellulosic membrane, the membrane cast into a flat sheet from a dope comprising a cellulosic polymer, a nonpolymer nonsolvent, and a solvent, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent comprises from about 20 wt. % to about 55 wt. % of the dope, the membrane having a first porous face having a first average pore diameter, a second porous face having a second average pore diameter, and a porous supporting structure therebetween wherein the supporting structure comprises a reticulated network of flow channels, wherein the membrane is substantially free of macrovoids, wherein the first and second average pore diameters having an asymmetry of at least about 2:1, and wherein the porous faces and the porous supporting structure comprise a network of structural surfaces capable of contacting a filter stream.

2. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the asymmetry between the average pore diameters of the first porous face and the second porous face is at least about 5:1.

3. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the asymmetry between the average pore diameters of the first porous face and the second porous face is at least about 10:1.

4. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the asymmetry between the average pore diameters of the first porous face and the second porous face is at least about 20:1.

5. (Original) The membrane of Claim 4, wherein the membrane has a molecular weight cut-off ranging from about 10k Daltons to about 300k Daltons.

6. (Original) The membrane of Claim 4, wherein the membrane has a molecular weight cut-off ranging from about 10k Daltons to about 50k Daltons.

7. (Original) The membrane of Claim 4, wherein the membrane has a molecular weight cut-off ranging from about 10k Daltons to about 30k Daltons.

8. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the cellulosic polymer comprises a cellulose ester.

9. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the cellulose ester comprises a cellulose acetate.

10. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the cellulose acetate is selected from the group consisting of cellulose diacetate, cellulose triacetate, cellulose acetate butyrate, cellulose acetate propionate, cellulose nitrate, methyl cellulose, and mixtures thereof.

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11. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the cellulosic polymer on a surface of the membrane comprises cellulose.

12. (Previously presented) The membrane of Claim 11, wherein the cellulose is produced via hydrolyzation of the membrane.

13. (Previously presented) The membrane of Claim 11, wherein the cellulose is produced via saponification of the membrane.

14. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the dope comprises a dispersion of the cellulosic polymer in the solvent.

15. (Original) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the dope comprises a homogeneous solution of the cellulosic polymer in the solvent.

16-42. (Cancelled)

43. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent comprises from about 20 wt. % to about 55 wt. % of the dope.

44. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent comprises from about 23 wt. % to about 49 wt. % of the dope.

45. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent is selected from the group consisting of alkanes, ketones, carboxylic acids, ethers, esters, and mixtures thereof.

46. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent is selected from the group consisting of 2-methoxyethanol, propionic acid, t-amyl alcohol, ethanol, isopropanol, hexanol, heptanol, octanol, acetone, butyl ether, methylethylketone, methylisobutylketone, ethyl acetate, amyl acetate, glycerol, diethyleneglycol, di(ethyleneglycol)diethylether, di(ethyleneglycol)dibutylether, propionic acid, hexane, propane, nitropropane, heptane, octane, and mixtures thereof.

47. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent comprises an alcohol.

48. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent comprises methanol.

49. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent comprises water.

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50. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent comprises methanol and water.

51. (New) The membrane of Claim 1, wherein the nonpolymer nonsolvent comprises methanol and water, wherein water comprises about 2.1 wt. % of the dope, and wherein methanol comprises from about 20.9 wt. % to about 21.4 wt. % of the dope.